



News

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Secretary Norton appoints new members to BLM advisory council

ANCHORAGE --- Interior Secretary Gale Norton has announced the appointment of five members to the Alaska Resource Advisory Council to advise the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on public lands issues in Alaska.

“We value the input the Resource Advisory Council provides in helping BLM manage Alaska’s public lands,” Norton said. “I welcome the new members, thank them for their commitment, and look forward to their counsel as we work to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands.”

The council includes a cross section of Alaskans from around the state representing energy, tourism, recreation, conservation, Alaska Natives and the public at large. Members come from different backgrounds and represent diverse interests, but all are dedicated to building consensus on public lands issues. In the past, the council has addressed mining, wild and scenic rivers, and public easement issues in Alaska.

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“The council’s input is more important now than ever,” said BLM Alaska State Director Henri Bisson. “We’re engaged in land use planning for several parts of the state. The balanced perspectives the council provides will ensure a thorough process and help us make sound decisions on the ground.”

The new or reappointed council members are:

- Gregory Beischer, Bristol Environmental & Engineering Services Corp. (Anchorage)
- June McAtee, Calista Corporation (Anchorage)
- Susan Olsen, Alaska Quiet Rights Coalition (Anchorage)
- Larry Taylor, Fortymile Riverboat Tours (Eagle)
- David van den Berg, ArcticWild (Fairbanks)

Continuing council members are:

- Charles Boddy, Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc. (Fairbanks)
- Tom Crafford, T. Crafford & Associates (Anchorage)
- Philip Driver, Midnight Sun Adventures (Anchorage)
- Randall Frank, Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly
- Teresa Imm, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (Anchorage)
- Sandra Key, Nature Conservancy of Alaska (Anchorage)
- Suzanne McCarthy, River Wrangellers (Glennallen)
- James Posey, Municipality of Anchorage
- Keith Tryck, Tryck Consulting (Anchorage)
- Eve Witten, World Wildlife Fund (Anchorage)

All council meetings are open to the public and include a public comment period. Information about the council and announcements of future meetings can be found at www.ak.blm.gov.

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